

THE TIMES

As Lara Croft's new adventure hits the screens, The Times presents a supplement dedicated to this most modern of heroines. Over the next few weeks we celebrate Lara with a nail-biting short story by Erica Wagner, an exclusive level of the game, a competition with great prizes on offer, and a microsite (www.the-times.co.uk/lara/). As Lara goes to Egypt, she will find herself walking in the footsteps of The Times. We exclusively revealed the excavation of Tutankhamun's tomb in 1922, and we re-report it on the microsite.

✠ P.4 THE LARA PHENOMENON

There is no doubt that Lara Croft is a lot more than a mere computer character. She has touched a nerve in the same way that James Bond does, and has become the first icon of the digital age.

✠ P.7 INTERVIEW WITH LARA'S GODFATHER, JEREMY HEATH-SMITH

Being Lara Croft's 'guardian' means working flat-out, Jeremy Heath-Smith tells Tim Wapshott. Smith reveals the biggest danger for Lara is over-exposure, and how a failure at selling shower curtains led to Lara.

✠ P.8 DOWN AMONG THE DEAD

Part one of our exclusive and gripping Lara Croft short story by Erica Wagner, literary editor of The Times. A further six instalments will follow in the paper up to the New Year. A must for true fans and a great introduction for the uninitiated.

✠ P.10 FOLLOWING LARA'S FOOTSTEPS

It's hard to imagine that we have only known Miss Croft for a mere three years, but in that time she has turned the gaming world upside-down. Tim Wapshott charts her unstoppable progress through the world at large.

✠ P.12 TOMB RAIDER: THE LAST REVELATION

If it's Christmas, then Lara Croft can't be far away. Here The Times reveals what the fourth Tomb Raider game is all about, and previews some of the exciting new facilities Lara has at her disposal...

✠ P.13 THE EXCLUSIVE TIMES LEVEL

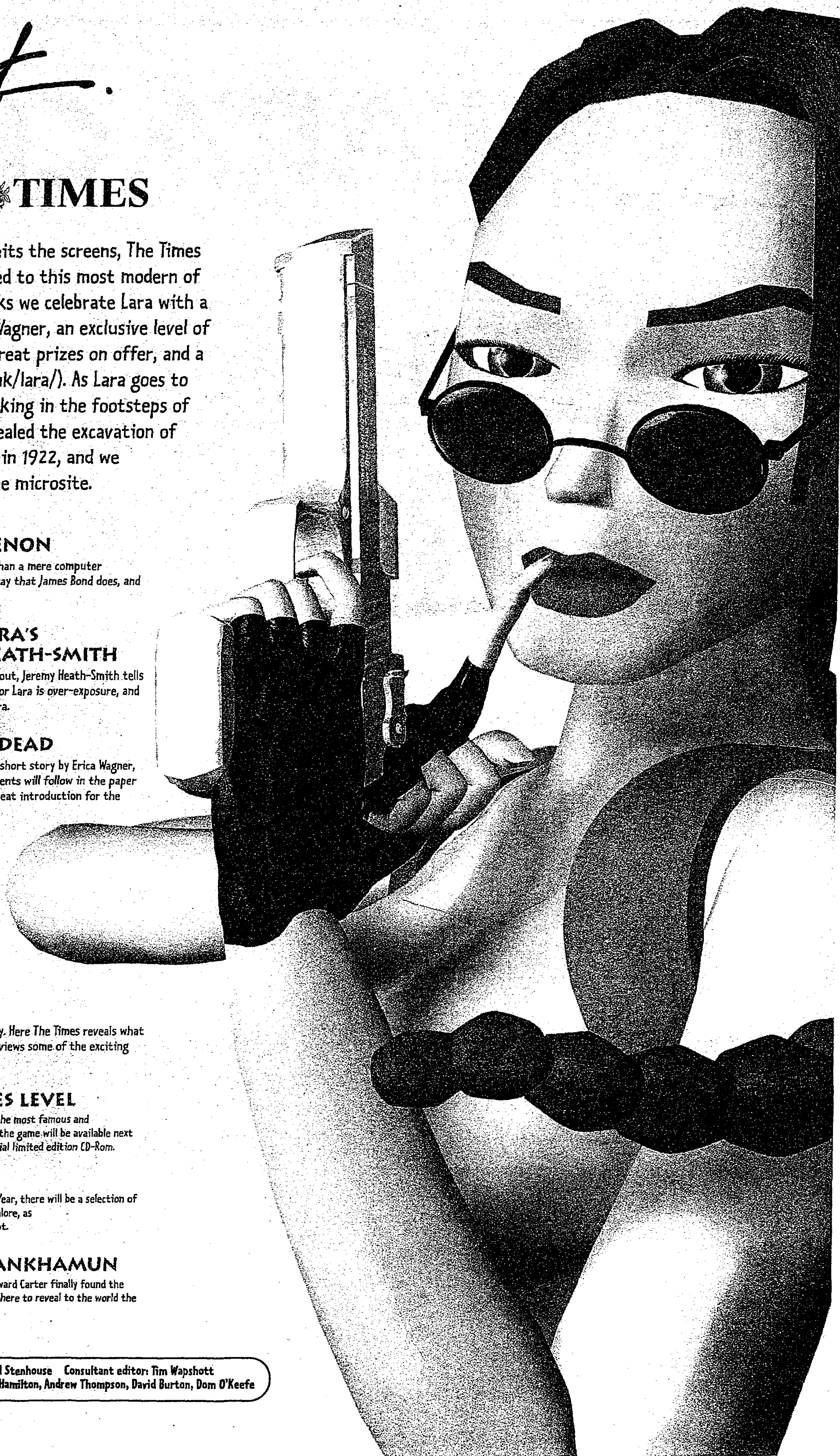
The greatest newspaper in the world joins forces with the most famous and uncompromising action hero of our times. This level of the game will be available next month off The Times website, and in the form of a special limited edition CD-Rom.

✠ P.14 COMPETITION

Part One of our seven-part competition. Until the New Year, there will be a selection of fiendish riddles to be solved. The prizes? Lara goodies galore, as well as the chance to win a fantastic luxury trip to Egypt.

✠ P.15 THE TIMES AND TUTANKHAMUN

After years of searching the savage Egyptian desert, Howard Carter finally found the lost tomb of Tutankhamun in 1922. Only The Times was there to reveal to the world the full glories of that legendary find, says George Pendle.



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